Introduction

Transportation significantly influences the lives of every citizen in the state of Maryland. Studies at the international, national and state-level have shown that efficient transportation is directly linked to economic growth and quality of life. Not surprisingly, delivering transportation services and facilities to the public has become one of the most important functions of government. In fulfilling this role, the Maryland State Highway Administration has been given significant responsibility to deliver highway transportation services and infrastructure to Maryland residents and others who travel within our state.

While at its most simplistic level the SHA is responsible for building and maintaining highways, its true impact on the citizens of Maryland is far broader. Highways influence many aspects of the day-to-day life of Maryland residents – highways affect the environment, influence economic development, promote the mobility of the public, and collectively influence the quality of our lives and communities.

Given the extensive influence highways have on Maryland communities, and SHA's role in building and maintaining them, measuring this influence is becoming an increasingly important way for us to better understand the impacts highways have. This annual highway system report seeks to provide a comprehensive and concise description of the current highway transportation system in Maryland. It reveals the baseline conditions of the existing extent, use, performance, condition, and other elements of the highway infrastructure and how these conditions have changed over time.

The measures contained in this report summarize significant activities of State Highway offices involved in development, operations, and planning functions. The information in this document will assist SHA in preserving the existing system and managing available facilities and services and efficient and cost-effective manner.

The information in the report was developed from both external sources and many sources within SHA.